

Lieutenant Governor afterwards informed me that he plainly told the chief how the white man works for his bread, and that flour does not come down from the sky like snow, but is obtained by hard labor on the soil. Many an Indian since that day has in a practical way verified the truth of those salutary words.

As far as I remember, there were at that time only two or three Christians in "Poor Man's" Band, and these kindly presented me with ten white fish to take home. In the other band under chief George Gordon, belonging properly to Little Touchwood Hills, there were already a good sprinkling of baptised Indians. Among these most of the time was spent in seeking to point out the road to Heaven to those who knew it not, and to give a helping hand to such as were by grace on it; at the same time both by precept and example endeavoring to persuade all to live by farming. The first house we built was erected late in the Fall, and all we could obtain for windows during the following very severe winter was white calico. The bread froze solid and snow would find its way into the interior.

At first the Indians lived in the bush, but were persuaded to remove to the open country where farming operations could be commenced. But the Red man is very conventional, but tractable, and is not impervious to a policy of patience and perserverance. The Government lost no time in laying out the different reserves, and ultimately supplied cattle, implements and seed. In due time also a farm instructor was at hand to encourage all who had a mind to work. At the Mission there was a fairly good farm, where among other things an amount of barley was raised and made into soup for the school children, and also given to all alike who cared to come to dinner on Sundays. It might here be noted that as no other flour mill existed in these parts, a young Canadian named Welder Near, was dispatched one Fall with a cart load of wheat from the Mission farm to Captain Moore's mill at Prince Albert, and some fine flour was brought back. This young man met with much kindness en route at Humboldt Telegraph Station.